

Fine Particulate Monitoring**FY2003 Request: \$375,000**
Reference No: 33827**AP/AL:** Appropriation
Category: Health/Safety
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2002 - 06/30/2004**Project Type:** Health and Safety
Recipient: Statewide
Contact: Tom Chapple
Contact Phone: (907)269-7634**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

Fine particulate matter is a by product of combustion and has been linked to respiratory ailments and various cancers. This federally mandated project provides installation and operation of fine particulate monitoring equipment throughout the state to evaluate the risk to public health in Alaska.

Funding:

	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	Total
Fed Rcpts	\$375,000	\$492,200					\$867,200
Total:	\$375,000	\$492,200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$867,200

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased Project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-Going Project
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Total Operating Impact:	116,300	0
One-Time Startup Costs:	0	
Additional Estimated Annual O&M:	0	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

Prior appropriations were made in FY2000 for 494.5, FY1999 for 778.8, FY2001 for 350.0, and FY2002 for 477.2.

FINE PARTICULATE MONITORING

Airborne particulate matter of less of 2.5 microns in diameter (PM_{2.5}) is primarily a by-product of combustion. It is created during the burning of fossil fuels (for example, in car engines, off road engines, and power plants), forest and vegetation wildfires and controlled burns, and even campfires and backyard burning of woody debris. PM_{2.5} has been linked to numerous long-term health problems, such as asthma and other respiratory ailments, and various cancers. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (40 CFR 50, 51, 53 & 58) requires the state to install and operate PM_{2.5} monitoring equipment throughout Alaska in order to gauge levels of fine particulate matter and evaluate the associated risks to public health.

During the first two years of this project, DEC developed a statewide network design which identified potential monitoring sites and necessary instrumentation; prepared a timeline for receipt and installation of PM_{2.5} monitors; upgraded equipment to comply with the new requirements associated with the PM_{2.5} program; ordered equipment/software; revised the state's quality assurance (QA/QC) plan for the collection and evaluation of PM_{2.5} data; and installed and operated air quality samplers throughout the state.

During FY2001 and FY2002, DEC operated the PM_{2.5} monitoring network to collect and evaluate data; implemented the state's new QA/QC program; reviewed the network to investigate other areas with potential fine particulate problems; and worked with local governments to assess levels of fine particulates and associated health risks in those communities.

In FY2003, DEC will continue to operate the PM_{2.5} monitoring network to collect and evaluate data; will operate the state's QA/QC program; will review the network to investigate other areas with potential fine particulate problems; and will work with local governments to assess levels of fine particulates and associated health risks in those communities. The project is continuing because at least three years of measurement data is necessary to ascertain if Alaska is meeting the new public standard for fine particulate pollution. Monitoring is expected to continue for at least two more years as EPA re-evaluates its fine particulate monitoring program.